

The Citrus Industry

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JULY, 1943

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MAGNIFICENT RESPONSE

Nearing the close of what promises to be a successful campaign to raise \$9,000,000 from Florida citrus interests for the purchase of thirty large bombers to equip the Florida Citrus Bomber Command, the Florida Orange Festival in a grand rally at Winter Haven added a cool half million dollars to its fund, assuring the success of the campaign.

Inaugurated some months ago, when the Florida Orange Festival Association decided to cancel its 1945 meeting, the campaign has been carried on with vigor by the officials of the Orange Festival with the hearty co-operation of other citrus interests. The plan calls for the purchase of thirty bombers at a unit cost of \$300,000 each, to be donated to the government for the use against our foes of the dictator nations.

At meetings held throughout the citrus producing sections of the state, gratifying results had been obtained, citrus growers, packers and shippers and their affiliated interests responding nobly to the call, the Winter Haven rally being a fitting climax to the series of meetings sponsored by the Orange Festival Association.

Hundreds of citrus growers and others interested in the industry attended the rally and eagerly purchased bonds. Purchases ranged from a few bonds to individual purchases as high as \$83,000, several bidders taking lots of from \$10,000 to \$40,000.

While the success of the campaign is now assured, purchases may still be made and every bond sold will add to the size and effectiveness of the Florida Citrus Bomber Command.

Florida citrus interests have responded liberally and patriotically to every call made upon them, whether it be for rubber, scrap metal, price ceilings, disrupted transportation or what not. Their bomber-buying campaign is just another evidence of their patriotic spirit. President John A. Snively, jr., of the Florida Orange Festival and his associates in the campaign are due the congratulations of every patriotic American. The growers and their allied interests who contributed so liberally to the campaign are due the thanks of the State and the Nation.

ONE-PRICE SYSTEM PROPOSED

At a meeting recently held in Weslaco, Texas, citrus interests of Florida, Texas, California and

Arizona set on foot a movement which may result in a one-price system of citrus marketing under government control.

A proposal made at the meeting for the establishment of the one-price control system received strong support from representatives of each of the four producing states.

Should the proposal be adopted by the industry and control assumed by government agencies, one price would be paid for grapefruit, whether it is produced in Florida, Texas, California or Arizona. One price would be set for oranges regardless of the origin of production, and one price for tangerines, likewise regardless of the point of origin.

Under such a system, Texas would set the price on grapefruit, having the highest cost of production of that fruit. California would fix the price of oranges, because the cost of production is highest in that state. Florida would set the price on tangerines. Arizona, which produces little citrus aside from grapefruit, would be classed with Florida and Texas in the price set-up for that fruit.

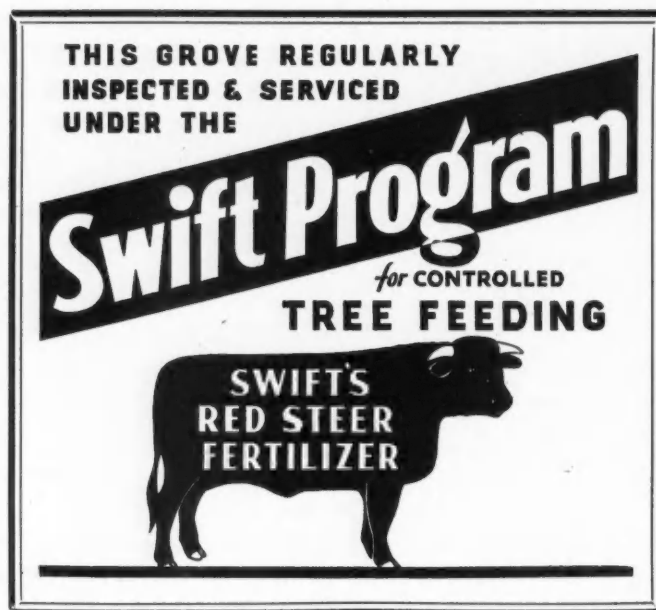
While no definite action has been taken on the proposal, it is being given careful study by the citrus interests of the producing states. Under such a system of price-control, backers of the proposal believe that much of the hit-or-miss marketing of the nation's citrus crop would be eliminated and that the growers would profit by the adoption of the system.

RECORD CROP FORSEEN

As the 1943 citrus shipping season in Florida draws to a close, the department of agriculture forecasts 84,402,000 boxes of oranges, exclusive of tangerines. This compares with a total of 82,434,000 boxes last season. Of this total, California is expected to show 43,662,000 boxes; Florida 26,300,000 boxes; Texas 2,900,000 boxes, and Arizona 660,000 boxes.

Grapefruit is expected to reach a total of 312,000 boxes, an increase of 22 per cent over the previous year. Of this total, Florida is expected to show 27,000,000 boxes; Texas with 17,100,000 boxes; Arizona 2,550,000 boxes, and California 1,350,000 boxes.

The California lemon crop is expected to reach 14,000,000 boxes, and the Florida lemon crop is placed at 175,000 boxes, both an increase over the previous season.



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BARTOW, FLORIDA



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The Fertilizer Situation ... In Florida

By F. J. WOODS, Co-Chairman of Sub-Committee On Fertilizer Ingredients and Nitrates, Div. of Agr., State Defense Council, At Meeting Horticultural Society

Mr. President, members and friends of the Society:

My assigned subject is "The Fertilizer Situation In Florida." While I am sure your primary interest is in the future, I want to take a few minutes to review the history of the past twelve months. A year ago at our fifty-fifth annual meeting I endeavored to give you a maximum of reassurance as to the supplies that would be available in the 1942-43 season. My forecasts were based on the best information available to me but I must admit now that there were so many things that could have happened to the supplies referred to that it was with much misgiving that I forecasted their availability. I am sure that the entire fertilizer industry joins me in a tremendous sigh of relief now that the 1942-43 season is drawing to a close. We have had many anxious moments and, while we fully realize that there are many trying days ahead, the industry has met a tremendous problem and has the satisfaction of having conquered it.

While it is true that some farmers did not receive exactly what they wanted in the way of fertilizer in the season now closing, I do not know of a single instance in which a farmer could not get sufficient fertilizer of a recognized type for the

production of his crops.

The only official records available of deliveries of fertilizer this season are from July 1, 1942 to March 1, 1943, a period of nine months. Comparing the same periods in 1940-41 and 1941-42 with the current season, we find that the fertilizer industry delivered to the farmers of Florida 95,000 tons more this year than in 1940-41 and 32,000 tons more than in the 1941-42 period. I am confident that the industry's deliveries for April, May and June of 1943 will exceed the corresponding period in any previous year.

Much has been said in the past twelve months about Nitrate of Soda and Potash Nitrate for at the beginning of this period this material was in smaller supply than some other materials, but for the nine months ending March 31st the industry distributed as straight material over 16,000 tons, either in the form of Nitrate of Soda or Potash Nitrate. This was only about 1,000 tons less than was distributed in the same period last year. Credit for the availability of this material must be given to the War Production Board and the Chilean Nitrate Sales Corporation who, in spite of apparently insurmountable difficulties, arranged for the shipment all the way from Chile of in excess of

1,000,000 tons of Nitrate to the United States.

Of course, the industry has not had the freedom of action that exists in peace time. The vast majority of our materials are allocated to us by the War Production Board. The distribution of all fertilizer is under the competent jurisdiction of the Food Production Administration. It has been necessary since January, and will continue to be necessary during the war, for the farmer to make application to the fertilizer industry for his requirements of fertilizer. This procedure is solely for the purpose of being sure that you get your share. Of course, the variance of crop needs by individual farms is so great that it is not practical to issue ration tickets either by farms or by acres. As we all know, in vegetable growing particularly, weather affects crop requirements of fertilizer.

Enough of the past — let us look toward the future. The Ordnance Department of the Army has done such an exceptionally fine job of providing for the armed forces potential needs of gunpowder that it finds itself in position to release substantial quantities of Nitrogen to agriculture from their recently completed Nitrogen plants.

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The Florida 1942-43 Citrus Season To Date

C. V. NOBLE, Agricultural Economist,
Florida Experiment Station

Florida citrus growers will soon complete the most successful season in their history. They are harvesting a record crop, and the price received per box will be the highest for more than a decade. Such a combination of favorable circumstances happens infrequently. The abnormal demand resulting from the war situation has maintained favorable prices throughout the season for the record crop. Government purchases for the armed forces and for the lend-lease program have been an important factor in the increased demand for citrus fruit. Perhaps a much more important factor, however, has been the rapidly increasing income of our civilian population during the past year. The income of industrial workers increased approximately 32 percent from April, 1942, to March, 1943. The income of other segments of our civilian population did not increase so rapidly, but the increased purchasing power of all civilian consumers was a real cause for higher citrus prices during the past season. Furthermore, unrationed fresh citrus fruits were, undoubtedly, substituted to a considerable degree for competing foods which were on the rationed list.

The latest revised estimate for the 1942-43 Florida citrus crop, released by the Federal Division of Crop Estimates on June 10, 1943, is 68,100,000 boxes, or 20 percent above the previous record crop of 1938-39. The Growers Administrative Committee of the Florida Citrus Marketing Agreement compiles up-to-date weekly summaries of Florida citrus data from all official sources. The following discussion of the present situation in connection with this season's crop will be based primarily upon the last weekly report issued by this Committee, dated June 19, 1943.

Oranges

A total of 19,300,000 boxes of early and mid-season oranges have been accounted for, representing 52 percent of the total crop estimate of 36,800,000 boxes. Only 14,000 boxes of Valencia oranges remain to be harvested of the 17,500,000-box estimate. Commercial canneries had taken over 6,000,000 boxes of oranges through June 18, or 63

percent more than were used for this purpose the previous season.

The average price received for all Florida oranges on the ten citrus auction markets through June 19 of this season was \$3.77 per box, the highest for more than a decade. It compared with \$2.79 per box on the corresponding date in 1942.

Grapefruit

The Federal estimate for all grapefruit on June 10, 1943, was raised to 27,000,000 boxes, 17,000,000 of which are of the seeded and 10,000,000 of the seedless varieties. It appears that this estimate will be somewhat exceeded, for 27,112,000 boxes had been accounted for through June 19. Commercial canneries had taken approximately 17,500,000 boxes, or 65 percent of the estimated crop at that time. This exceeds by 26 percent the amount of grapefruit used for canning during the previous record season 1940-41. Over two-thirds of the current season's crop of the seeded varieties of grapefruit have been canned and slightly less than one-half of the seedless varieties has been used for this purpose.

Grapefruit auction market prices to date this season have averaged higher than for any season since 1929-30. Fresh grapefruit averaged \$3.10 per box on the ten auction markets through June 19, compared with \$2.51 per box a year ago. This 24 percent increase in auction prices is a fair indicator of prices for fruit sold by other methods and for other purposes.

Tangerines

The record crop of 4,300,000 boxes of tangerines has been moved at unit price about in line with those received for the crop of less than one-half its size in 1941-42. The latest comparable average auction price per 1 3/5 bushel standard box was \$3.61 this season and \$3.58 a year ago. The greatly increased consumer purchasing power during the current season is in the main responsible for its successful conclusion.

The unusual combination of favorable circumstances enjoyed by the Florida citrus industry during the 1942-43 season, namely, a record yield of fruit and a greatly increased consumer demand, should be giv-

ing careful consideration by present and prospective citrus producers before they decide to make additional plantings. Consumer demand for citrus will, no doubt, continue strong through the war period, but after the war a decline in purchasing power can be expected. On the other hand, Florida's bearing acreage of citrus continues to increase, and a larger proportion of that acreage is coming into full production each year.

In July, 1942, it was estimated that 84 percent of Florida's orange plantings, 93 percent of her grapefruit plantings, and 98 percent of her tangerine plantings, were 5 years old or over. However, only 54 percent of the orange trees, 68 percent of the grapefruit trees, and 75 percent of the tangerine trees were estimated to be 16 years of age or older, or in full bearing. With this age status of Florida's 26 million citrus trees, a crop exceeding 68 million boxes is being harvested this season. Assuming a production season as favorable as 1942-43, it is estimated that 92 million boxes of fruit could be produced from the present plantings after all trees have reached full bearing age 15 years hence. This is a matter that should be considered carefully before additional plantings are made. Additional outlets must be found for Florida citrus and consumer demand must be stepped up appreciably for fresh and canned fruit before new plantings are economically justified.

In summary, it would seem that the profits from grove operations during this closing season could well be used in the following manner:

1. Increase grove production to its maximum capacity insofar as labor, fertilizer, spray material, and other production needs can be obtained. The demand for citrus fruit should grow stronger as the war progresses.

2. Pay off grove mortgages and other indebtedness. Attempt to avoid at the end of the present period of comparative prosperity the sad experiences of many owners of heavily mortgaged groves during

(Continued on next page)

Wartime Transportation ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

It will be the purpose of my talk today to outline to you something of the origin of the Office of Defense Transportation and the purpose for which it was formed.

In December, 1941, at the beginning of the World War and shortly after Pearl Harbor, the President of the United States immediately thought of preserving our transportation system. This was necessary for, as you know, agricultural products, fruit, food, cannon, ammunition and soldiers are of no value if they cannot be moved at the required time. During the last war we were faced with an overburdened and practically collapsed transportation system. At that time the railroads and boats handled practically all of our commodities and people. In 1917 we had approximately four and one-half million passenger cars and practically no trucks or buses, and today, or in 1942, we had 26 million passenger cars, 4½ million trucks and nearly 1½ million buses. These units carry approximately 25 percent of the traffic and serve 16,000 communities in the United States that are not served by any carrier other than trucks and buses. We do not intend to let the transportation system fail in this war. From experience, the President and his advisors knew that immediate steps must be taken and they were taken. The President did not have to look for a man capable of handling this tremendous job as there was one outstanding man in the transportation field, not only in the United States, but in the world. That man was Mr. Joseph B. Eastman, and the President selected him and gave him the title, "Director of Defense Transportation." By executive order, he instructed Mr. Eastman to take the necessary measures for the conservation and the preservation of the whole transportation facilities of the United States. This covers the railroads, ships, trucks, buses and all means of transportation other than the private passenger cars and all of these are under the control of Mr. Eastman.

Mr. Eastman is a man of ability that is unquestioned by anyone; he is the broadest and most capable man in transportation in the world; he is not what we sometimes term 'a Government man;' he is an unselfish public servant. Mr. Eastman, with his broad knowledge of transportation and faithful and unselfish

Paper by Wm. J. Keown, Assistant Regional Manager, Read by E. R. Rowland, District Manager, At Meeting of Florida State Horticultural Society.

attitude, is preeminently fitted for the successful prosecution of this task. He has dedicated his life to public service; he is not a "brain truster;" he is practical and is determined to do the job well. He knew, better than anyone else when he took this job, the tremendous task at hand. He works long hours because he loves transportation and is determined to do his job. He knew that some very radical changes had to be made.

May I use as an illustration: A doctor is called to a family where a child is dangerously ill. After diagnosing the case, the doctor tells the family that a serious operation is necessary, but they object to the operation; they are against operations, do not believe in them and do not like them. If he is not a good doctor and permits the family to talk him out of performing the operation and the child dies, then he has lost the life of the child and the friendship of the family because he did not force upon them the thing they did not want.

Mr. Eastman is the doctor in this case and the railroads, trucks and buses required an operation, and although they did not prefer it, it was necessary to save the life of the transportation of this country.

Of all the types of transportation, the trucks are Mr. Eastman's greatest problems. In the case of the railroads, who are doing a very fine job in transportation during this war, there are possibly 1,000 companies and practically all of these are represented by the American Railroad Association with offices in Washington. They are so organized that Mr. Eastman or his office may confer and consult with them easily and any proposed orders or regulations may be discussed or difficulties may be ironed out immediately. In the case of commercial motor vehicles (trucks and buses) there are approximately 6 million of them with 3,500,000 in the hands of individual owners. Naturally, this large number of people cannot be organized and it is difficult for the Office of Defense Transportation to get the full cooperation of these people due to the fact that it is hard to

get information to them concerning what they are supposed to do. Mr. Eastman knows the situation and realizes that unless some drastic steps are taken, a little later in this year, 1943, the motor transportation of this country will collapse. The major problems of this situation are gasoline, equipment and rubber and he has a full grasp on these matters.

As stated a few minutes ago, the railroads have done a very fine job, but there is a limit to their capacity. They are approximately 95 percent loaded in both directions and their equipment is taking a terrific beating. It is wearing out with very little replacement. That means the motor carriers must adjust their program to take up any slack. As I stated, motor vehicles are moving about 25 percent of the traffic, both commodities and passengers, in this country at this time. If congestion should start, as it might through failure of railroad equipment or motor truck equipment, it would gather momentum like a snowball rolling down the hill.

We men in this organization of ODT are all practical business men, having had years of experience in transportation, and it is our job to try to help the carriers forestall any congestion that may occur to keep terminals clear of freight, to see that merchandise gets moving, to see that empty trucks are loaded and to see that there is no waste
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THE FLORIDA 1942-43 CITRUS SEASON TO DATE

(Continued from preceding page)
ing the great depression of the last decade.

3. Buy War Savings Bonds. There are many uncertainties at the present time as to what the demand for citrus fruits may be after the war. It would be a highly speculative procedure to increase grove plantings materially until a clearer picture can be obtained of the economic needs for greatly increased quantities of fruit. Money placed in War Bonds will not only serve the immediate purposes of war finance and the prevention of harmful inflation, but it will also be available after the storm has cleared for saner and more profitable use in the citrus industry than can be visualized at present.

The State Department of Agriculture And The War Effort

An Address By NAT MAYO, Before
The State Horticultural Society

It is my pleasure to bring you greetings from the State Department of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Agriculture. The Commissioner deeply regrets that he is unable to be present and address you personally, and while it is his misfortune, and perhaps your hard luck, I consider it my good fortune.

I have been asked to talk about the State Department of Agriculture and the War Effort.

Among the activities of the State Department of Agriculture which are directly related to the war effort may be mentioned the following:

Through the State Markets a short cut was made direct from farmers to the United States Army in the sale of food products and \$137,371 worth of products have been sold to the army thus far through these markets. Sales through the State Markets year before last totalled around \$11,000,000, but present indications are that total sales for this year will reach between seventeen and eighteen million dollars. These figures include both vegetable and live stock markets. It is generally conceded that the State Markets have been a great boon to Florida producers. They were originated by Commissioner Mayo and credit for their successful operation should be given to their able director, William L. Wilson, better known as Billy Wilson. Right here let me say that it was largely through Mr. Wilson's efforts that the price ceilings on potatoes have been raised above the government prices first established—though not as much as requested.

The Department cooperates thru the State Marketing Bureau with all governmental agencies handling farm crops in the distribution of market news and the cooperative inspection of carlot shipments of various groups.

We have cooperated with the Extension Division of the State University in encouraging farm production.

With Hon. L. H. Kramer, chairman of the Agricultural Division of the State Defense Council, we assisted in getting several dehydration plants established in Florida, as well as many other projects.

We cooperated with the Federal Government through the Florida Economic Advancement Council in securing recognition of advantages which Florida offered in the way of locating governmental projects for war purposes.

The State Department of Agriculture has cooperated with the Army in analyzing gasoline for airplane uses—free of charge.

We offered our services in the analysis of fertilizer and seeds imported into the state, and through our activities, assisted by the National Association of Commissioners, Secretaries and Directors of Agriculture, secured passage of a bill in the House of Representatives unifying the relationship of the national and state governments in regard to inspection policies relating to inter-state shipments.

We have worked for and we have secured priorities on various materials needed on the farm, such as machinery, gasoline, wire, fertilizer etc., and the deferment of workers on the farm and securing of extra labor in some sections.

Employees of the Department who normally travel by automobile have been requested to reduce their car mileage by an average of at least 300 miles per month in order to save our nation's supply of gasoline and rubber, and I am happy to say that we have splendid cooperation in this respect.

Of course all of our employees have bought bonds, and you might be interested to know that the Department has furnished 95 men for military service, several of whom have gone abroad.

Besides these tangible things I have mentioned we are putting some time and thought on agriculture's place in the post-war period.

Now I am going to digress a few minutes and mention a few things that I think have proved to be obstacles in the way of full and complete cooperative effort in an "all out" war effort:

The attitude of Federal authorities toward state authorities.

Multiplicity of national agencies with overlapping jurisdiction and uncertainty of authority in many instances.

Too much blue print, red tape,

bureaucratic regulation without regard to the exigencies of the case involved.

Too much favoritism and politics. These things have led to much confusion and dissatisfaction.

There should be a broader foundation for cooperation and unity of authority in all branches of administration of national and state laws.

The Educational and Economic Research Committee, representing the National Association of Commissioners, Secretaries and Directors of Agriculture has prepared a statement of purpose and policies. I would like to quote three of the declared policies for your consideration:

The purposes are:

1. To preserve the solvency of the United States, which is necessary to our economic freedom with its civil and religious liberties.

2. To develop the vast agricultural resources of the United States at a price level which will create the income to make full employment of labor and the distribution of our factory goods possible.

3. To cooperate with all nations, while at the same time maintaining states' rights and our own national independence, and our only protection against exploitation.

The policies are:

1. The maintenance of a maximum of parity prices based on a proper relation of farm prices to industrial wages and finished goods prices during the War and through the post-war period. Congress should as soon as possible enact legislation which will adjust parity prices to include all labor costs.

2. Agriculture must be considered in fact as an essential war industry and given equal precedence with other war industries in securing labor and priorities for essential farm machinery, tools and repair parts.

3. The parity concept is fundamental and basic to a sound economy. Such things as price ceilings, tariffs, reciprocal trade agreements, wages and hours regulations, and social reforms of any kind must be built around and subservient to the parity concept if this nation is to maintain its present economic importance. (End of quote).

(Continued on next page)

THE FERTILIZER SITUATION IN FLORIDA

(Continued from Page 3)

This Nitrogen will either be in the form of Nitrogen Solution or grain Ammonium Nitrate. Nitrogen Solution has been used in Florida for many years in the manufacture of ammoniated Superphosphate and we are assured that the agronomic results of the use of Ammonium Nitrate will be equal to the use of Nitrogen in the form of Solution, which is entirely satisfactory.

I am making a sincere effort not to encroach upon my good friend Porter's subject, but it is difficult to present the Florida picture without consideration of the National one for, after all, they are one and the same. The present outlook for Chemical Nitrogen, even though some unforeseen disaster might prevent the importation of Chilean Nitrate, indicates that there will be available to the fertilizer industry 20 percent more than in 1942-43. And if Chilean Nitrate is imported in the same quantity as last year, the Chemical Nitrogen supplies will approximate 50 percent more than in the season now coming to a close.

The Potash industry, with the assistance of the War Production Board, has done an excellent job in the distribution of American Potash and not only every farmer but every American should give thanks to the foresightedness of the pioneers of the American Potash Industry, for were our country today dependent upon European supplies as they were at the beginning

THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE WAR EFFORT

(Continued from Preceding page)

You will notice that these principles apply not only to the present but to the immediate post-war period. While everyone is discussing what we shall do internationally, it behooves the agricultural interests of the United States to be wide awake and see that the farmer is not ignored or neglected in drafting legislation affecting the economic reconstruction of the future. Eternal vigilance is just as necessary to secure economic justice as it is to secure liberty. If we are to have a better world after this global war it must include not only four freedoms but four justices: Justice for wage earners, justice for business, justice for professions, and JUSTICE FOR AGRICULTURE.

A Correction

In last month's issue of The Citrus Industry it was stated that all officers of the Florida State Horticultural Society had been reelected. This was slightly an error, because of the fact that Dr. F. S. Jamison, of Gainesville, was elected to succeed Mr. R. A. Carlton, of West Palm Beach, as Vice President and Chairman of the Vegetable Section.

of the last World War, we would be in a bad way. The outlook for Potash is that the fertilizer industry will have available from 92

to 94 percent as much as was available in 1942-43. The mines have been at peak production but as it is more economical to supply the needs of agriculture to our Allies than to supply the agricultural products, there will be a little less Potash for American consumption this coming year.

Superphosphate has given the industry much concern the past twelve months. The demand has been greater and production has had difficulty in keeping pace. The War Production Board has stepped into this picture and, while Superphosphate is not under direct allocation, it is definitely under their watchful eye.

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Please be patient . . .
if you have to wait!

NACO FERTILIZER COMPANY

MEMO: The situation with regard to the delay in shipment of fertilizers on order for our customers is steadily improving.

NOW is a good time to do your OIL SPRAYING—don't delay too long! We have ample stocks of VOLCK oils on hand and can make prompt shipments of your needs.

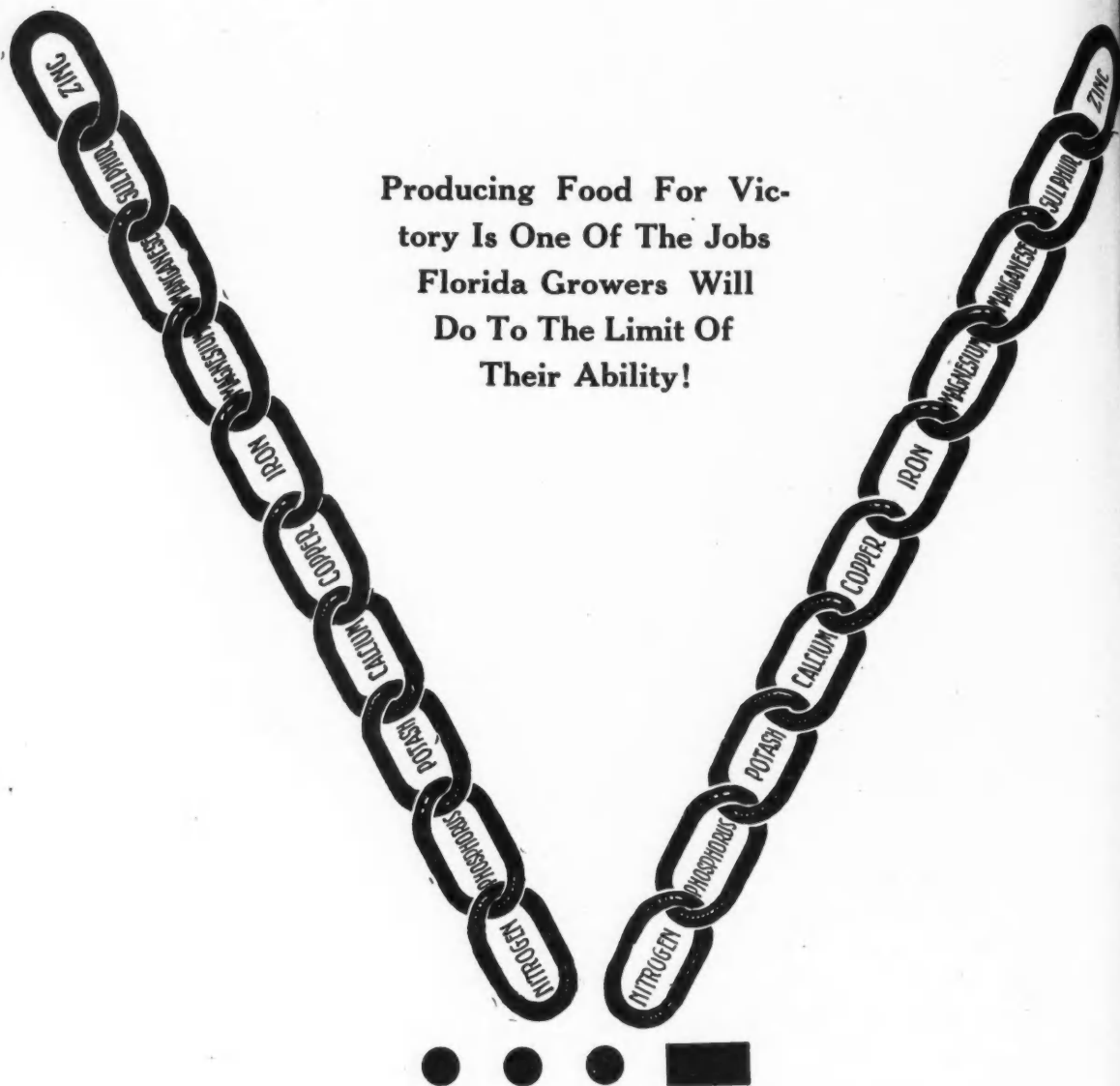
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Fertilizer Company

O. S. S. Pres.,

P. O. Box 1021

At 47th Street, Tampa, Florida

THE FERTILIZER SITUATION IN FLORIDA

(Continued from page 7)

I believe distribution will be so coordinated in the future that it will not again occur.

The only dark picture of all of the primary plant foods is the Organic situation. We in Florida are particularly conscious of this form of Nitrogen, primarily due to the peculiarities of our soils. Organic materials have been the subject of much discussion and investigation by government as well as industry. Considering the national picture, Organic Nitrogen represents less than 5 percent of the Total Nitrogen to be used in food production.

Six months ago we were laboring under the impression, honestly based on information available at that time, that the industry would have to absorb in fertilizer 500,000 tons of Oil Seed Meals which would not be fed to animals. This picture has completely reversed itself and animals are actually dying of malnutrition because of the lack of sufficient Oil Seed Meals. The government issued an order some five months ago prohibiting the use of Oil Seed Meals in fertilizer. No one can challenge the properness of such action if they know the facts but this order took away from the fertilizer industry some of its main sources of Organic Nitrogen and greatly accelerated the demand for the few remaining Organic materials obtainable for fertilizer, such as Castor Pomace, Activated Sludge, Nitrogenous Tankage, etc. In my humble opinion, supplies of Organic Nitrogen in mixed fertilizer available to Florida growers next season will approximate 50 percent of the quantity used in the 1942-43 season. To provide for more equitable distribution, it is believed the Government will require that the small supply of Organic Nitrogen available be used in mixed fertilizer. If any appreciable quantity of these materials were used as such on crops, it would mean that thousands of other acres would have to use all Chemical fertilizer. The use of Organic Nitrogen in mixed fertilizer is recognized as the method which will utilize its effectiveness to the greatest extent.

I was assured in Washington two weeks ago that the Secondary metals so vital to Florida agriculture, should be in ample supply during the coming year.

I have given you the supply picture as it appears at the moment to me. There is one other thing

U. S. INDEPENDENT OF ITALY IN CITRUS OILS

As a result of the war, tiny rind cells from citrus fruits that formerly went to waste are now giving up their contents to supply all the lemon and orange oils that flavor U. S. foods, beverages and medicines. Moreover, U. S. producers are supplying our allies with the oils. As of April 1, 1943, the Food Distribution Administration has delivered for shipment under Lend Lease 229,577 pounds of lemon oil and 21,961 pounds of orange oil.

Until 1939, Italy supplied large quantities of these citrus oils to meet U. S. needs. Italian small farmers and farm laborers extracted them either by scraping the rind surface with a spoon, or by twisting the fruit against ridges set within a funnel—a sort of orange juice extractor in reverse—and catching the oil from the ruptured cells after it trickled down the funnel spout.

When war cut off shipping between Italy and the United States, American distributors began to produce greater amounts of citrus oils as by-products—usually expelling them from rinds in hydraulic cold presses after the pulp had been removed. Right now, as a result, this country is self-sufficient in the oils, most of which are produced in California.

on which the production of fertilizer depends 100 percent and that is manpower. Our plants are staffed with children, old people and women and not nearly enough of even these. The industry's productive capacity has been greatly reduced during the past twelve months. There have been seemingly unnecessary delays in deliveries. Some plants have been at a standstill for days because of the lack of sufficient labor to manufacture. This condition is not going to improve anytime soon and the best advice I know of that might be given to the Florida farmer is to take delivery of his fertilizer well in advance of the time that he is going to need it, that he order it from his supplier and get it on his farm. Jacksonville and Tampa are the two largest producing points of fertilizer. Each of these cities now has very active shipyards with increasing demands for labor at a much higher wage than

the War Labor Board will allow the fertilizer industry to pay. Labor cannot be condemned for taking advantage of the higher income available to them, but it presents a huge problem to us. So should you delay in ordering your fertilizer, do not be surprised if the day comes when your supplier says "I have the materials but you will have to furnish the labor to permit me to manufacture the fertilizer and ship it to you."

If you do not have sufficient storage on your own grove or farm, make every effort to find it in the neighborhood and place the order for your fall application with your supplier as soon as you can and authorize him to make shipment when possible. This precaution will give you the assurance that you will have your fertilizer and it will permit the industry to make available to agriculture a greater quantity than can possibly be available on the normal seasonal basis.

On behalf of the industry, I want to take this opportunity to thank agriculture for their cooperation and patience during the past season. With a continuation of this spirit, the primary goal of increased food production in Florida will be assured next season.

GOOD SEASON GIVES HIGHLANDS GROWERS CHANCE TO PAY OFF

Good yields and prices this year have enabled many Highlands county citrus and vegetable growers to pay off debts, including some mortgages of several years standing, according to County Agent L. H. Alsmeyer.

The labor supply during the greater part of the citrus season was better than growers and others had expected it to be, but sail was not adequate. As a result, Mr. Alsmeyer said, citrus harvesting will probably continue well into July.

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Citrus Cooperative Organizations Expanding

Citrus co-operative organizations in Florida are growing in volume of business and services performed by the co-ops have increased from selling and packing to grove caretaking, according to an Agricultural Experiment Station report on citrus cooperatives' financial trends and services.

The report, to be printed as Experiment Station Bulletin 386, is by Dr. H. G. Hamilton and A. H. Spurlock. They point out that "the tendency has been in recent years for the local cooperative association to perform both marketing services and selling," adding "there has been a gradual and consistent growth in number of associations and number of services performed by associations."

Services include "spraying, tractor service, dusting, fertilizing, cultural, irrigation and pruning."

Caretaking services did not adversely affect the financial position of the associations or the prices received for fruit, the report said, declaring that "it is possible that the association is able to perform" services at lower cost than owners.

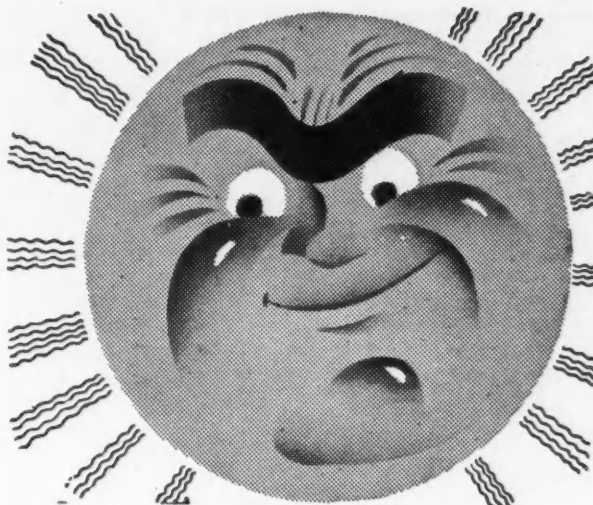
The report, extending from 1925 to 1940, declared that in 1939-40, 54 out of 387 firms handling fresh fruits for out-of-state shipment were citrus cooperatives.

Saying the average Florida association handles twice as much fruit as an independent, the Experiment Station reported that "mortality of citrus cooperatives was not as high as for independents for the period" 1935 to 1941 and "during the 6-season period following 1935-36, 61.7 percent of the firms operating in the 1935-36 season failed, but only 44.2 percent of the cooperatives operating in 1935-36 failed during the next six seasons."

Indicating there had been "a gradual but consistent increase" of grove care services, the report said "should the present trend continue for a number of years, caretaking soon will be about as important as the marketing service" for the co-ops, and even "if the cost is no lower, it may make it possible for growers with small groves not requiring their full attention to turn this time to some other interest."

From 1909, from 20 to 40 per-

(Continued on page 14)



SURE IS HOT!

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Statistics indicate a severe National shortage of other essential fruits this year. Bumper crops of Florida citrus will be urgently needed. We invite growers to use our friendly and efficient service, and X-CEL PRODUCTS to do the job.

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The LYONIZER

Department

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Pinellas County...

Pinellas County, bordering the Gulf of Mexico, has made as much agricultural progress in the past few years as any county in Florida. This is directly attributable to the fine spirit of cooperation that exists between their very capable County Agent John Henry Logan, the officers of the county, and furthermore all the growers of the county.

Pinellas County although small in area is important for its productivity. The total area of the county is approximately 212,000 acres; within the area there are about 769 farms, totaling 31,800 acres. A majority of the remaining acreage is suited for one or more types of activity, not only for citrus but for truck farming, flower growing, raising tropical and sub-tropical fruits, poultry production, dairy farming, beef cattle and hog ranching, bee keeping and general farming that includes raising of cane, sweet potatoes, chufas, corn and other field crops.

Progressive farmers in Pinellas County already have reached the conclusion that diversified production and subsistence farming offers a solution to perplexing production and marketing problems. As a result, perhaps, to this trend toward diversification, roadside markets have been developed in Pinellas County to a high degree and offer valuable outlets for production exceeding family needs. Diversification also is responsible for development of a unique agricultural situation in this county that probably exists nowhere else in the United States. The city of St. Petersburg, noted practically the world over as a resort center, contains within its corporate limits more agricultural activities than the total number in some Florida counties. Among these are 15 commercial dairies, 300 acres of orange and grapefruit groves, 15,000 chickens, more than 100 acres of truck farms, at least one cattle ranch, several ornamental nursery stock and flower producers, and numerous small commercial apiaries. Also a considerable volume of

Reports of Lyons Field Men . . .

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

F. W. (Felton) Scott

Both the citrus and vegetable seasons are through with shipping from this territory and in summing up the entire season it is nice to report that it can be considered a success from the standpoint of profit as well as from the fact that we supplied the nation with an abundant crop of high quality produce. In looking forward to the fall season it now appears that we will have a good fruit crop and certainly we will do our part in producing the much needed vegetable crops for both the war effort and for civilian use.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA

E. A. (Mac) McCartney

Recent rains have been most helpful to citrus groves in this section but we are anxious to see considerable additional rainfall. It is encouraging as we cover this territory to note that we have more fruit than was at first anticipated. This is true on practically all varieties with the exception of tangerines which will

the county's production of subtropical fruits such as mangos, avocados, and papayas come from within the limits of St. Pete.

Citrus is the chief money crop in Pinellas and this area ranks second among Florida counties in grapefruit production. There are approximately 15,000 acres of groves in the section, responsible for shipment of more than a million and a half boxes of citrus fruits.

Valuable to the county's agricultural wealth is the dairy industry. There are sixty-five commercial dairymen with approximately 3000 head of dairy cattle. Guernsey and Jersey breed are predominant in these herds.

Ranching in the county is on the increase both in the production of beef cattle and hogs. During the past few years there has been increasing development of fence ranges, development of fine grass pastures and importing of purebred stock for herd improvement. Although it is a little known fact, one of the largest hog ranches in the southeast is located near Clearwater.

unquestionably be short. Growers realizing the hazards of scale where oil is not applied are now busy with their spray machines as they realize that it is more economical to control scale and prevent dead wood at this time than to disregard scale and have heavy droppage of fruit and high pruning costs.

HILLSBOROUGH & PINELLAS COUNTIES

C. S. (Charlie) Little

Pinellas county has suffered all spring from lack of rain and in many groves there has been loss of both fruit and wood as a result of the drouth. While we have had some rain in recent weeks it is still dry and we are anxious about more rainfall. We have had some trouble with salt water in irrigation of groves due to the low water level. We haven't noted and June bloom in the section, but have been advised that there is considerable bloom on some groves in Pinellas county. The Valencia market was good throughout this territory and practically all growers made some money.

POLK & HIGHLANDS COUNTIES

J. M. (Jim) Sample

Like most sections of the state this territory has had plenty of rain recently. This has put groves in good shape, and most trees are putting on a very satisfactory summer growth, accompanied by late bloom in some cases. The summer application of fertilizer has been completed with all groves receiving an adequate supply of major as well as secondary plant foods. The summer oil spray is now being applied and will run into July in most cases. Several new citrus plantings were made this month and only a shortage of nursery trees prevented a larger planting.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

V. E. (Val) Bourland

We have had some rain in this section but not in sufficient quantities to keep trees in certain localities from wilting. Our fruit crop is setting very well and it now appears that we will have a normal tonnage to market during the coming season.

THE LYONIZER

PINELLAS
COUNTY

— 0 —

John Henry Logan
County Agent

— 0 —

The picture at right shows County Agent Logan (with sweater) and a herd of registered Guernseys. The animal on the left is Klondike Krusader, a fine young bull, owned co-operatively by outstanding dairymen and the Pinellas County Home. This picture was made in a pasture of white dutch clover that grew 22 inches tall.



Pictured at the left is an exhibit of Pinellas county at the Florida State Fair, giving a fair idea of the diversity of this county's horticultural activities.

— 0 —

Pictured below is County Agent John Henry Logan (wearing boots) and a group of agricultural leaders in Pinellas County looking over the foundation stock for the Pinellas County Home herd of registered Guernsey cattle.



Control Of Rust Mites And Red Spiders....

By J. R. WATSON
Entomologist, Florida Experiment Station

Species of the spider class are apt to be injurious at this time of the year, particularly if the weather is hot and dry. Three species, the purple mite, six spotted mite, and rust mite attack citrus. The purple mite attacks the upper surface of the leaves, which turn an ashen gray. It is particularly common on satsumas but is found also on tangerines and other varieties of citrus.

Much more serious is the 6-spotted mite, which is particularly apt to attack young grapefruit leaves. Unlike the purple mite, it works on the undersides of the leaves, which turn yellow in spots severely attacked, and if the damage is sufficiently severe the leaves may drop, some years resulting in serious defoliation of the trees.

Rust mites on citrus we must expect at about this season every year. Warm, dry weather is very favorable for the development of rust mites also and they multiply very rapidly. Each female lays on the average of about 500 eggs and she may mature in as short a time as 7 days: i. e., she may begin to lay eggs when she is a week old, although usually it is 10 to 12 days. It is this rapid breeding which enables rust mites to appear in large numbers so quickly when weather conditions are favorable. They appear first on the leaves and twigs, and only when the young fruit begins to approach an inch in diameter do they migrate to it. As to just how much injury they may do to the leaves and twigs, we have no definite information, but the injury to the fruit and to the pocketbook of the grower is only too well known.

The economical way to fight rust mites is to provide one's self with a good magnifying glass, one magnifying about 10 times, and inspect the fruit frequently, particularly during warm, dry weather, such as we are liable to have for some weeks. Of course, one cannot examine every fruit in the grove but on the other hand do not go into your grove, look at a few of the trees near the gate and then get in your car and drive off with a feeling that you have given it adequate inspection. Rust mites may be scarce in one part of the grove and very abundant in another.

Therefore, visit all parts of the grove. On a fruit fully exposed out in the bright sun, look on the shady side for rust mites: i. e., on the side of the fruit towards the tree. On the other hand, on fruit which is shaded by leaves, look on the side of the fruit facing outward from the tree. Rust mites want a good supply of light but usually avoid the direct rays of the mid-day sun. Those fruits back in the interior of the tree where they are abundantly shaded from the sun are usually comparatively free of rust mites. With this knowledge of where to find rust mites, go through the grove and if you find that half of the "fields" you examine are infested, it is time to apply remedies. By a "field" we mean that part of the fruit which you can see under the glass without moving it.

Another species of mite, Yothers' mite, is very common on camphor trees in the spring of the year. It turns them russet brown. It also occurs on avocados where its damage is severe enough to warrant control measures in some years.

The control of these mites can usually be accomplished by the use of sulfur, either as a dust or in the form of lime-sulfur and wettable sulfur applied as a spray. To get good results form dust, it should be applied when there is very little wind and when the weather is fairly warm, certainly over 70° F. The purple mite is particularly difficult to control with sulfur compounds in cool weather. Under such conditions better results will be obtained by the use of an oil emulsion. At this time of the year when there is a lot of young and tender growth on the trees one had better confine himself to one of the white oil emulsions. In spraying for the 6-spotted mite, of course, one must be particularly careful to get the spray on the underside of the leaves, which will call for good pressure in the spraying machine.

CITRUS CO-OPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS EXPANDING

(Continued from page 11)
cent of Florida fresh citrus has been marketed by co-operatives, which have expanded rapidly since 1930. A citrus marketing association

needs at least 200,000 boxes of fruit for efficient operations, the report stated, adding that causes of failure were lack of adequate volume, poor management, financial difficulties, lack of cooperative spirit and unsatisfactory prices.

The report said: "Statistical analyses reveal that Florida citrus marketing associations in the past have failed from one or more of three reasons: (1) lack of volume, (2) inadequate financing and (3) unsatisfactory prices."

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